CLAIMS

1.   An alerting healthcare network comprising:

healthcare alert information generated by a healthcare related agency;

a patient database that stores patient information regarding a patient;

a first web server communicatively coupled to the patient database that evaluates the healthcare information and the patient information and generates at least one alert message based on the evaluation;

a healthcare provider computer, communicatively coupled to the web server, running browser software used by the healthcare provider to review the patient information; and

at least one web page delivered by the web server to the healthcare provider computer that presents the at least one alert message for review by the healthcare provider.

2.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the healthcare related agency is the FDA.

3.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 further comprising a second web server associated with the healthcare related agency, and wherein the first web server receives the healthcare alert information from the second web server.

4.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 3 wherein the first web server periodically retrieves the healthcare alert information from the second web server.

5.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 3 wherein the second web server communicates the healthcare alert information to the first web server in real time when the healthcare information is generated.

6.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the alert message comprises a warning based on one or more of a current condition of the patient, a current medication of the patient, a diagnosis associated with the patient, current care being provided to the patient, and a medical history of the patient.

7.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the healthcare provider computer is one of a physician computer or a nurse computer.

8.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the at least one web page presents a pop-up window for display of the at least one alert message.

9.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the first web server is at a location remote from healthcare provider computer.

10.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 3 wherein the first web server is at a location remote from the second web server.

11.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 1 wherein the alert message is based on a suitability of the patient for participation in a clinical study.

12.   An alerting healthcare network comprising:

healthcare alert information generated by a healthcare related agency;

a patient database that stores patient information regarding a plurality of patients;

a first web server communicatively coupled to the patient database that evaluates the healthcare information and the patient information, and based on the evaluation, generates an alert message for each of selected ones of the plurality of patients;

a plurality of healthcare provider computers, each corresponding to a respective one of the plurality of patients, communicatively coupled to the web server, and running browser software used by a healthcare provider to review patient information regarding the respective one of the plurality of patients; and

the first web server delivering at least one web page to selected ones of the plurality of healthcare provider computers, each of the selected ones of the plurality of healthcare provider computers corresponding to a respective selected one of the plurality of patients, each at least one web page presenting the alert message for review by a healthcare provider.

13.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein the healthcare related agency is the FDA.

14.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 further comprising a second web server associated with the healthcare related agency, and wherein the first web server receives the healthcare alert information from the second web server.

15.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 14 wherein the first web server periodically retrieves the healthcare alert information from the second web server.

16.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 14 wherein the second web server communicates the healthcare alert information to the first web server in real time when the healthcare information is generated.

17.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein each alert message comprises a warning based on or more of a current condition of the respective selected one of the plurality of patients, a current medication of the respective selected one of the plurality of patients, a current diagnosis for the respective selected one of the plurality of patients, current care being provided to the respective selected one of the plurality of patients, and a medical history of the respective selected one of the plurality of patients.

18.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein each of the plurality of healthcare provider computers is one of a physician computer or a nurse computer.

19.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein the at least one web page presents a pop-up window for display of the alert message.

20.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein the first web server is at a location remote from at least a portion of the plurality of healthcare provider computers.

21.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 14 wherein the first web server is at a location remote from the second web server.

22.   The alerting healthcare network of claim 12 wherein the alert message is based on a suitability of the respective selected one of the plurality of patients for participation in a clinical study.

23.   A method of providing an alert in an alerting healthcare system comprising:

retrieving patient information from a patient database regarding a patient;

receiving healthcare alert information generated by a healthcare related agency;

determining whether an alert is warranted for the patient based on the retrieved patient information and the healthcare alert information;

communicating an alert message to a physician computer if it is determined that an alert is warranted for the patient.

24.   The method of claim 23 further comprising causing the alert message to be displayed on the physician computer.

25.   The method of claim 23 further comprising communicating, by the healthcare related agency, the healthcare alert information.

26.   The method of claim 23 wherein the healthcare alert information is retrieved from the healthcare related agency.

27.   A method of providing alerts in an alerting healthcare system comprising:

        retrieving patient information from a patient database regarding each of a plurality of patients;

        receiving healthcare alert information generated by a healthcare related agency;

        determining whether an alert is warranted for the each of the plurality of patients based on the retrieved patient information and the healthcare alert information;

        communicating an alert message to a respective physician computer, for each of the plurality of patients for whom it is determined that an alert is warranted.

28.   The method of claim 27 further comprising causing the alert message to be displayed on each respective physician computer.

29.   The method of claim 27 further comprising communicating, by the healthcare related agency, the healthcare alert information.

30.   The method of claim 27 wherein the healthcare alert information is retrieved from the healthcare related agency.